

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H02J7/00 A61C17/34

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H02J A61C H01M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97/08804 A1 (PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.; PHILIPS NORDEN AB) 6 March 1997 (1997-03-06)	23
Y	abstract; figure 1 page 1, line 1 - page 1, line 11	1-8, 20-22
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 12, 3 January 2001 (2001-01-03) -& JP 2000 245072 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD), 8 September 2000 (2000-09-08) cited in the application abstract ----- -/--	1-8, 20-22

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

31 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/02/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 96/09019 A1 (GIMELLI & CO. AG; HOMMANN, EDGAR) 28 March 1996 (1996-03-28) cited in the application the whole document -----	22, 24, 25
Y	DE 195 13 539 A1 (FINALPINA AG, HERGISWIL, CH) 17 October 1996 (1996-10-17) cited in the application the whole document -----	24, 25
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 08, 30 August 1996 (1996-08-30) -& JP 08 088942 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC WORKS LTD), 2 April 1996 (1996-04-02) cited in the application abstract -----	1-25

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9708804	A1	06-03-1997	NONE	
JP 2000245072	A	08-09-2000	NONE	
WO 9609019	A1	28-03-1996	DE 4434187 A1 AU 3742095 A	28-03-1996 09-04-1996
DE 19513539	A1	17-10-1996	NONE	
JP 08088942	A	02-04-1996	NONE	